

INFORMATION REPORT

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SUBJECT Rules for Organization of Peasants' Association in Kwangtung

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25X1 The following is a translation of a set of rules for the organization of a
25X1 Peasants' Association. These rules were promulgated in northeastern Kwangtung
25X1 during the period of local Communist control there.

Preamble: The purpose of these rules is to aid in the execution of the program of rent and interest reduction, to improve the livelihood of the peasants, and to achieve unity among middle peasants, poor peasants, and agricultural laborers.

1. The village is the basic unit of the Peasants' Association.
2. The purpose of the association is to organize the peasants, execute the policy of rent and interest reduction, improve the peasants' livelihood, increase agricultural production, and achieve the ultimate goal of "turning over (番羽身)."*
3. Membership is open to all poor and middle peasants and agricultural laborers who have no bad habits, abide by the Association rules, and are dedicated to the cause of revolution. Landlords and rich peasants are normally excluded from membership.
4. Members shall have the rights of running for office, electing officers, and referendum. They will have priority in the receipt of public loans and relief, and may initiate measures for the improvement of production.
5. Members shall have the obligations of introducing new members, publicizing the purpose of the Association, paying dues, executing the decisions of the Association, mediating village disputes, safeguarding village interests, and serving the peasants of the village.
6. The president and vice-president of the Association shall be elected by the general meeting of the peasants of the whole village, or by the meeting of the "natural groups"*** among the village peasants. Under the president and vice-president there shall be committees of investigation, production, finance, armed forces, and welfare.

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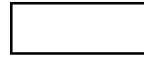
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7. The terms of service for the president, vice-president, and committee members shall be six months, with the right of re-election.
8. Dues for members shall be one catty of dry rice. When need arises, extra dues may be levied by a meeting of the village representatives of the Association.
9. A village membership meeting shall be held once every three months, a meeting for the representatives of the village association shall be held once every two weeks. Special meetings may be called by the Association president.
10. The Association committee shall give spiritual or material encouragement to those who actively serve the interests of the peasants; those who violate the regulations shall be punished by warning or expulsion.
11. These regulations may be amended by the membership meeting of the village association.

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Comment. "Turning over" is a Communist term for "revolution."

Comment. "Natural groups" is an ambiguous term unexplained in the original text.

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